



Bulletin

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March 4, 2005

VOL. 2005 NO. 508 ♦ USDA Food Ordering & Customer Service (FOCUS) Team Update

Release of SY 2006 Surveys

- We have released all Meat and Poultry as well as the first set of Fruit and Vegetable surveys today in ECOS. If you did not receive an ECOS generated notification on any surveys that have been released, please contact the ECOS Help Desk at (703) 305-2914 or email them at: HelpDesk.ECOS@fns.usda.gov.
- Please refer to your "Group A Ordering Chart" that was sent out when we released the pre-surveys early January 2005. An updated version of this chart is currently posted on our web site at: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/focus/info/>.
- Please note that the new commodity codes for the Cooked Pork and Beef have been added and are now available for ordering:

Cooked Pork Commodities for Survey# 03H24

- A712 PORK SLOPPY J CKD
- A713 PORK BREAD PTY CKD
- A718 PORK TACO CKD 10

Cooked Beef Commodities for Survey# 04H24

- A706 BF SPP PTY CKDHSY 40
- A714 BEEF TACO FILL CKD
- A715 BEEF BREAD PTY CKD
- A716 BEEF SLOPPY J CKD
- A717 BEEF CRUMB SPP

- Also note that the Irradiated Beef Commodities are now available for ordering. This is for the Irradiated Beef 40 (A579) and Irradiated Beef Patties (A578).
- Please notice the new Fruit and Vegetable items recently added:
 - Tomato Paste Tote (A245) Apricots Diced 10 (A382)
 - Cherries, Canned (A363) Frozen and IQF (A364, A365),
and dry (A292, A293)
- Fruit and Vegetable orders will be due on April 8, 2005 (first set)
- Meat and Poultry orders will be due on April 28, 2005.
- July deliveries for Cut-Up Chicken A515, survey 02H22, as well as Turkey Roast A537, survey 05H23 must be submitted to us by 15 April in order to meet contracting requirements.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/focus/>

- Canned meats (beef, pork, and lunchmeat) will now be purchased on a quarterly basis. This means that more delivery periods are now available throughout the school year. The first invitation will include August and Sept delivery periods; with this early delivery period, we must close the canned meat survey on 15 April. Please make a note of it. Also, please note that we will not have October or first half of November delivery dates available for canned meats.
- We ask that you make every effort possible to spread orders throughout the delivery periods, especially during the July through September timeframe.
- Delivery orders are analyzed to ensure that there are sufficient orders to meet delivery periods and sufficient funds for capped commodities, as well as sufficient product to meet demand. Once this is completed, states will have the opportunity to add additional orders if prices are lower than anticipated, more product becomes available in the market, or less orders are submitted by states than anticipated.
- Dollar Fair Share Allocation Excel Charts (2) have been attached for your guidance. Keep in mind that any request for additional product should be emailed to the specialist. We will make every attempt to accommodate as many requests as budget and market availability allows. We will notify you when we can accommodate those changes through email.
- If you need any technical assistance with ECOS, please notify the ECOS Help Desk at (703) 305-2914 or email them at: HelpDesk.ECOS@fns.usda.gov.